Sustainable Building for Thriving Communities

Improving towns and neighborhoods through better residential storm water management.

Community success depends on water management.

- Flood control
- Water supply
- Improved quality of life

Advanced storm water management at the residential level:

- Reduce run-off
- Aids in meeting targets
- Improved aquifer recovery
- Reduced drought impact

Managing water at the lot level:

- Reduce demands on infrastructure
- Low up-front cost
- Reduced ongoing costs

Apply existing sustainable construction standards

- National Green Building Standard
- LEED – Homes

Programs are structured in a scoring format:

Good, Better, Best

NGBS structure is comparable to building codes- easy to adopt

Impacting storm water control:

- Choose appropriate site
- Limit damage during construction
- Restore damaged areas
- Sustain upgrades

Choose appropriate site:

- Primarily new development
- Avoid wetlands
- Avoid steep slopes
- Re-use existing lots

Limit damage during construction:

- Protect trees and vegetation
- Reduced soil compaction
- Minimize digging

Restore damaged areas:

- Protect loose soils
- Restore vegetation quickly
- Regionally appropriate plants
- Mulch and amendments

Sustain upgrades:

- Permeable surfaces
- Rainwater re-use facilitated
- Minimize concentrated flows
- Swales and water gardens
- Hydrozoning

Apply recognized programs to ease implementation

- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design LEED – Homes
- National Green Building Standard – NAHB

Applying sustainable building practices:

- Reduce demands on infrastructure
- Low up-front cost
- Reduced ongoing costs
- More stable communities

Upgrading water management at residential level:

- Protects streams
- Reduces storm surges
- Restores aquifers
- Makes communities stronger